

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-9, 11, 12, 14, 16-31, 34-39, 41, 42, 44, 46-59 and 64-68 are in this case. Claims 20-30 and 50-59 were withdrawn by the Examiner from consideration as drawn to a non-elected invention. Dependent claims 64-68 have been canceled. Independent claims 1 and 31 and dependent claims 4-6, 9, 14, 16, 17 and 19 have been amended. New independent claims 69-72 have been added.

Specifically, the following amendments have been made to the claims as suggested by the Examiner.

§ 112 issues

The phrase “so as” has been either deleted or replaced with “and” wherever the phrase appears in the non-withdrawn claims.

The phrase “adapted to” has been replaced with “operative to” wherever the phrase appears in the non-withdrawn claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the network output port is coupled to the outgoing packet generator. (The Examiner had suggested that claim 1 be amended to state that the outgoing packet generator is coupled to the network output port, similar to the recitation that the incoming packet processor is coupled to the network input port, but because the outgoing packet generator is introduced in claim 1 before the network output port it makes more sense to state that the network output port is coupled to the outgoing packet generator.)

Claims 1 and 31 have been amended to state that the respective outgoing packets for which the gather engine gathers write and read data are the respective outgoing request and response packets.

§ 103(a) issues

Claim 64 has been rewritten in independent form by amending claim 1 to include the limitation that the first memory location, to which the response descriptor is written, is in the system memory. Please note that claim 31 already includes this limitation and so does not need to be amended to overcome § 103(a) issues.

Claim 65 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 69.

Claim 67 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 70.

Claim 66 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 71. Please note that claim 66 is the method claim that corresponds to device claim 65.

Claim 68 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 72. Please note that claim 68 is the method claim that corresponds to device claim 67.

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 31 and 69-72, and hence dependent claims 4-9, 11, 12, 14, 16-19, 34-39, 41, 42, 44 and 46-49 are in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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